(b) and (c) A central subsidy of 50% of the ex-works costs of SPV systems for lighting and village level small power plants is being provided to special category states/UTs, Islands, desert areas, hilly regions and certain specific categories of beneficiaries all over the country, under the socially oriented scheme. The subsidy for solar lanterns is fixed at Rs. 2000/- each. A package of subsidy and soft-loan is being made available for the purchase of SPV water pumpingsystems.

Soft loan is being made available to the beneficiaries for purchase of Solar Photo voltaic devices/systems through the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) Ltd. under the Market Oriented Scheme. A World Bank asissted project of US $ 55 million value for SPV market development in the country is also being implemented through IREDA.

In addition to the above schemes for the users, fiscal and financial incentives such as concessional custom duties on solar cells photovoltaic modules and systems; lower or no excise duty, 100% depreciation and soft loan facilities are available to the manufacturers of SPV devices and systems.

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*232. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the reason for the decision to discontinue the extension of Rainfed Farming Project by ODA through FP & ARD;

(b) whether in the Aide-memoire prepared by ODA Annual Monitoring Mission in November, 1992, ODA had agreed to continue the project with FP & ARD in an expanded form at least upto 1997, if an undertaking is given by Government that HFC will not be closed down before March, 94; if so, when was such undertaking given by the Ministry to ODA;

(c) whether the ODA also voice its concern about the voluntary retirements in FP & ARD which would make impossible to run the projects efficiently, if so, what action was taken by the HFC Management to allay the apprehension of the ODA Monitoring Mission; and

(d) whether it is a fact that in the same report it was maintained that the project should continue upto March '97 but ODA was not agreeable to approve funding upto 1997 because of the Management changes which occurred during 1991-92 contrary to the earlier agreements, if so, who were responsible for these changes and what steps were taken by Government/management to assure ODA about the unchanged project set-up during the tenure of the Project ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV) : (a) Overseas Development Administration (ODA), an agency of Government of United Kingdom, was quite emphatic that in view of the uncertainty arising out of the declaration of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation (HFC) as a sick company, the implementation of the Rainfed Farming Project, which was hitherto being implemented by FP & ARD of HFC, should be entrusted to KRIBHCO.

(b) No, Sir. The factual position is that the aide memoire of Monitoring Mission (November, 1992) stated that the team would recommend to ODA that the project should continue with HFC until at least March, 1994 and that ODA should only approve project expansion in the period 1994/7 if, *inter alia*, an undertaking could be given by the Government of India to ODA by 31st March, 1993 that HFC would not be closed down before March, 1997.

Since HFC had been referred to the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), a quasi-judicial body, Government was not in a position to give an undertaking on the above lines. However, ODA was assured through British High Commission in November, 1993 that the staff deployed in Rainfed Farming Project would continue till the life of the project even if HFC in its present form underwent a change before 1997. It was further assured that the posts sanctioned for the project and additional posts sanctioned in case of expansion of the project in future, shall continue till the life of ODA funded project, may be in some other organizational form, depending upon the orders to be passed by the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction.

(c) Yes, Sir. However, CMD, HFC assured that the posts sanctioned for the project and the additional posts to be sanctioned in case of expansion of the project in future, shall continue till the life of ODA funded project.

(d) HFC made no structural deviations contrary to the earlier understanding.

गैर-परम्परागत ऊर्जा के माध्यम से कृषि कार्य में सहायता

*233. **श्री कामेश्वर पासवान** : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गैर-परम्परागत ऊर्जा के माध्यम से कृषि कार्य में सहायता प्रदान करने के लिए सरकार क्या प्रयास करने का विचार रखती है या इस समय क्या प्रयास कर रही है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार ग्रामीण किसानों को ऐसे उपकरणों की आपूर्ति को प्रोत्साहन देती है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस क्षेत्र में सरकार का क्या योगदान या भूमिका है ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम. अरूणाचलम) : (क) से (ग) सरकार कृषि और सम्बद्ध कार्यकलापों के लिए अपारंपरिक ऊर्जा स्रोत आधारित प्रौद्योगिकियों के इस्तेमाल को बढ़ावा दे रही है । इसके लिए पानी को खींचने के कार्य में सौर प्रकाशवोल्टीय पम्पों, पवन चक्कियों और बायोमास गैसीफायर पम्पों तथा कृषि उत्पादों को सुखाने के लिए सौर शुष्ककों (सोलर ड्रयरों) के इस्तेमाल को प्रोत्साहन दिया जा रहा है । सरकार द्वारा परिवार आकार के और सामुदायिक आकार के बायोगैस संयंत्रों को भी प्रोत्साहन दिया जा रहा है, जिनमें बायोगैस के अलावा समृद्ध कार्बनिक खाद का भी उत्पादन होता है ।

इन प्रणालियों की लागत में कमी लाने के लिए विनिर्माताओं को रियायती सीमा शुल्क, उत्पाद शुल्क से छूट, शत-प्रतिशत ह्रास और उदार शर्तों पर ऋण जैसे राजकोषीय और वित्तीय प्रोत्साहन दिए जा रहे हैं । इसके अलावा, ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों सहित देश में इन प्रणालियों की संस्थापना के लिए उपयोगकर्ता को आर्थिक राज सहायता और उदार शर्तों पर ऋण भी उपलब्ध कराए जा रहे हैं, इसका ब्यौरा निम्नलिखित है ।

केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा उपयोगकर्ताओं को उपलब्ध कराई जा रही प्रणालीवार सहायता

क्रम सं०		आर्थिक राज सहायता	उदार ऋण (अधिकतम)
1	सौर प्रकाशवोल्टीय पम्प		
	(क) 700 वाट तक	150 रुपये वाट 1,50,000 रुपये तक सीमित	50,000 रुपये
	(ख) 701 वाट से 1400 वाट	वही	80,000 रुपये
	(ग) 1401 वाट से 2250 वाट	वही	1,00,000 रुपये
2	जलपम्पन पवन चक्की		
	(क) परिष्कृत 12 पीयू 500	12,500 रुपये	शून्य
	(ख) गियर टाइप गहरे कुएं	22,500 रुपये	शून्य
3	बायोगैस गैसीफायर पम्पन प्रणाली		
	(क) 5 हार्सपावर	9,000 रुपये	शून्य
	(ख) 10 हार्सपावर	12,000 रुपये	शून्य
4	सौर फसल शुष्क	800 वर्ग मी० संग्राहक क्षेत्र	शून्य
5	बायोगैस संयंत्र		
	(क) परिवार आकार के (1 घन मी०—4 घन मी०)	1,500—3500 रुपये	—
	(ख) सामुदायिक आकार (5 घन मी०—85 घन मी०)	44,000 रुपये—21 लाख रुपये	—